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April 24, 2001 LB 541

is a mother or every person who is a father is going to conduct himself or herself toward children in the way that a proper father or mother should do. There are a lot of terms...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that take on sentimental connotations and it raises them to a level of sacrosanctness where they cannot be touched. But I'm going to reach out, like the phone company, and I intend to try to touch them, and I'm going to touch them one way or the other. And this is a program that I think has no policy justification. Anybody at the local level would be in favor of any program that the state is going to pay for. Are you surprised that school boards would support this? Surprised that these educational administrators at the local level would support it; that teachers would support it? Certainly there should be no surprise. Look at the source of the money. Look at who is responsible for raising the revenue to produce the money to allow appropriations such as this. So when we get to that mainline budget, I've got some things that I'm going to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...raise as issues. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. We are discussing the Wehrbein amendment, AM1626, to committee amendments to LB 541. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President and members of the body, back to the Cash Reserve issue. I handed out a piece of paper that shows the history of the Cash Reserve Fund so that you might see what's gone on with it since 1983-84, the percent of...in the budget as a percent of the revenues. And, if you'll notice, it's gone as high as 6.3, 6.8 percent, 6.9 actually, of the revenue to as low as...I guess...I thought we had a zero in there, but we've been down to 1.0 percent. This takes us to 2.5. This is really only a history of it. It doesn't say whether it's right or wrong. I was going to finish my conversation with Senator Raikes in terms of the fact that I